

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 JOHANN 00110 211021Z  
ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00  
DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 FAA-00 L-03 H-01 SS-15  
NSC-05 /050 W  
-----211022Z 125680 /20

R 210819Z JAN 77  
FM AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5506  
INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN  
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA  
AMEMBASSY ROME

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE JOHANNESBURG 0110

CAPE TOWN ALSO FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: EAIR, SF  
SUBJECT: CIVAIR - AIRBUS ECONOMICS/RELIABILITY

REF: STATE 005609

1. THE AIRBUS' ARRIVAL IN SOUTH AFRICA DURING THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 22ND WAS THE SUBJECT OF SUBSTANTIAL NATION-WIDE PUBLICITY AND "BALLYHOO". THE JOHANNESBURG RAND DAILY MAIL AND ITS CAPE TOWN SISTER PAPER, THE CAPE TIMES AMONG OTHERS, CARRIED FRONT PAGE PHOTOGRAPHS WITH STORIES QUOTING THE SAA PILOTS TO THE EFFECT "SHE'S A PILOT'S DREAM" AND, "THE BEST AIRCRAFT I'VE EVER FLOWN". EXTRACTS THESE ITEMS WERE FORWARDED DEPARTMENT ON DECEMBER 1, 1976.

2. DURING RECENT YEARS, SAA HAS HAD A PROPENSITY FOR OVERBOOKING ON ITS RELATIVELY LIMITED SCHEDULE OF FLIGHTS BETWEEN JOHANNESBURG AND CAPE TOWN THUS LEAVING PASSENGDRS HIGH AND DRY (AND INFURIATED) AT THE AIRPORTS. SINCE THE  
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PAGE 02 JOHANN 00110 211021Z

AIRBUS TRIALS WERE COMPLETED WELL PRIOR TO THE ANNUAL HOLIDAY PERIOD DECEMBER 15 - JANUARY 15, OUR CURRENT READINGS ARE THAT THE AIRBUS (SUPPLEMENTING THE BOEING 737) HAS VIRTUALLY OBIATED THIS SITUATION SINCE ITS INTRODUCTION ON THIS ROUTE.

3. WE CONTINUING TO MONITOR THIS SITUATIO ALONG LINES REFTTEL AND SHALL REPORT FURTHER AS DATA AVAILABLE.

JOHNSON

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, AIRCRAFT, PUBLIC ATTITUDES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 21-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977JOHANN00110  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770022-0975  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** JOHANNESBURG  
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**Litigation Code IDs:**  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Message ID:** 990c61d3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EB  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 STATE 5609  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
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**Review Date:** 08-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3540774  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** CIVAIR - AIRBUS ECONOMICS/RELIABILITY  
**TAGS:** EAIR, SF  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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